

USSVICB MEETING MINUTES of March 8 2011

Attendance for the meeting was 108

OPENING CEREMONY: Base Commander called the meeting to order. A Quorum was present and the meeting was commenced at 19:00

INTRODUCTIONS: New people introduced, welcome aboard.

SECRETARY REPORT: Asked for and received approval for last month's minutes.

TREASURY REPORT: Terry Gave Report.

VICE COMMANDER REPORT: Carl reported he has Career Counselor Badges available for old Command Career Counselors..

MEMBERSHIP: We have about 330 members

NEWSLETTER: Nothing to Report

CHAPLAIN REPORT: Nick Nichols presented the chaplain report and requested that the membership update their Page 2, get your pictures taken at the conclusion of the meeting and take a look at the Website as updates are very frequent.

BENEDICTION:

Let us pray:

Gracious Father, thank You caring for us like You do. We thank You for the US Submarine Veterans and SUBVETS of World War II and we ask for your blessing as we are gathered here tonight. Help us to work together and encourage each other in all we do and say. Be with us as we conduct our business and allow this meeting to be of importance to our members. Bless our nation, our leaders and our men and women in uniform.

We dedicate this meeting to our Shipmates on Eternal Patrol, to perpetuate their memories in our lives and to honor our Shipmates on active duty in the United States Submarine Force.

As we pause for a moment of silent prayer let us remember our Shipmates who have made the supreme sacrifice that we may gather here in peace. *[pause]* It is in Your strong and powerful name we pray, Amen.

Submarines Lost During the Month of February

USS PERCH (SS-176)	3 March 1942	61 POWs; 53 Survived the war
USS GRAMPUS (SS-207)	5 March 1943	Lost with all hands – 72 souls
USS H-1 (SS-28)	12 March 1920	Loss of 3 souls
USS TRITON (SS-201)	15 March 1943	Loss with all hands – 74 souls
USS KETE (SS-369)	20 March 1945	Loss with all hands – 87 souls
USS F-4 (SS-23)	25 March 1915	Loss with all hands – 21 souls
USS TULLIBEE (SS-284)	26 March 1944	Loss with 79 souls – 1 POW survived the war
USS TRIGGER (SS-237)	26 March 1945	Loss with all hand – 91 souls

Eight Boats and 428 Men Lost

**TORPEDOMAN'S CHIEF, SUBMARINES, GIRARD EDWARD "JERRY" COUTU,
UNITED STATES NAVY RETIRED
SHIPMATE DEPARTED ON ETERNAL PATROL – FEBRUARY 28TH, 2011**

February Report:

- Ken Fuhr is still recovering from his fall and broken ribs.
- Bill Jennings has been at Jan. and Feb. meetings but still has some very bad days. Bill was at the Oyster Roast and had a great time.
- Rusty Pickett had a hip replacement on Feb 15th. The surgery went well and he was released on Feb 18th. He is recovering at home.
- Tamarra Butler, daughter of Rick Stump, is now in the reconstructive surgery stage after her fight with breast cancer last year. The family continues to ask for our prayers for her.
- VADM James Burnett Wilson, Retired who was CO of the Andrew Jackson (SSBN-619) departed on Eternal Patrol on January 24th. He was not a Charleston Base member. A card was sent to the family.
- Mike Slattery's father, John, passed away in Ohio on February 16th. A card was sent to the family.
- John Paul Pardo had hernia surgery on February 25th and is recovering.
- Silversides Base Commander Harry W. Hart, MMCM (SS), Retired, departed on Eternal Patrol on February 22nd as a result of an automobile accident. A card was sent to the family.
- Charlie "Sam" Base departed on Eternal Patrol on February 26th. Although he was local, he was not a member of the Charleston Base. A card was sent to the family.
- Gary Semler was admitted to the hospital on Sunday, February 27th. He was having difficulty breathing and was put on O2. Gary had a CT scan of the lungs Saturday and the result showed no improvement and possibly a little worse. He had a rough time while in the hospital but he is now at home and feeling much better. Ann wanted to thank us for our thoughts and let us know Gary will be in touch and resume his activities soon. Gary was in attendance for tonight's meeting.
- Jerry Coutu departed on Eternal Patrol on February 28th. His service was held on March 3rd. Over 20 SUBVETS participated in the service
- Pauline Stank, Ed's wife has received a call from Duke to approve her lung transplant. Ed and Pauline are moving to Durham, NC on March 14th for as long as it takes to complete the transplant and rehab. This could take up to six months.

Several follow-ups were made on those who've had surgery or illnesses in the last couple of months along with the base sending additional cards.

If you know of shipmates or spouses from other bases who are having a difficult time, had surgery, etc. and would like for USSVI Charleston Base to send them a card please send their name and address to the Chaplain via email or phone call.

INVOCATION:

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father as we come to the end of our time together, we thank you for what has been accomplished. We pray the matters discussed tonight will move us forward in all areas of our lives, our organization and our country.

Help us remember those who are unable to be present with us tonight. Place Your hand of healing upon the sick and wrap your arms of comfort around those who are grieving.

I ask a special blessing on the United States Submarine Veterans and SUBVETS of World War II. And now Father, let us take a moment of silence to remember those who are where we have been.

We prayer all of this in the name of our Lord Jesus. Amen.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS: An article on the USS Hunley was posted in the base Retired Affairs paper.

SK: Nothing to Report

SCHOLARSHIP: 15 March is the last date to submit applications. Only one application has been submitted so far

HOLLAND CLUB: April meeting will be a non-business meeting and will be conducted to induct approximately 30 members into the Holland Club. ADM Albert J. Baciocco, Jr is scheduled to be the guest speaker

VETERANS AFFAIRS: Nothing to Report

AFTER BATTERY REP: Buddha requested that members interested in the After Battery see him after the meeting. We have about 30 people who come out each Wednesday night for dinner and some cards. Dick Pasnak donated a bell to the After Battery which Al Stoll had engraved with "After Battery". The work was done in Maine. More plaques have been donated to the "After Battery" and space is becoming a premium. We need to get a place in case of the unlikely passing of Buddha.

RECREATION COMMITTEE: Charley Hudson is the chairman of the new Recreation Committee. He reported that the annual picnic will be held on May 21, 2011 at the After Battery. Hot dogs, Hamburgers and Chicken will be provided. Bring only one covered dish per vehicle. We will need Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Macaroni Salad and deserts.

SUBVETS WWII: The USS Amberjack (SS-219) memorial service will be held at Patriots Point on Saturday March 19th starting at 1100. CAPT Ward, CO of Naval Weapons Station will be in attendance. The honor guard is being provided by the Naval Weapons Station and "Buglers across America" is providing the bugler. Come out a support this important event.

BASE HISTORIAN: Need pictures of your career for base history.

DISTRICT COMMANDER: Ocala Florida is hosting the USSVI South East Regional convention from 28 April to 1 May 2011

NUCLEAR HISTORIAN: A story of Frequent Flyer Miles and the Boomer Sailors as told by Rick Carlson.

A Missile Technician was seated next to an "A" Ganger on a flight from Scotland back to the states.

After the plane was airborne, drink orders were taken.

The "A" Ganger asked for a whiskey, which was promptly brought a placed before him.

The flight attendant then asked the MT if he would like a drink.

He replied in disgust, "I'd rather be savagely raped by a dozen whores than let liquor touch my lips."

The "A" Ganger then handed his drink back to the attendant and said

"Me too, I didn't know we had a choice."

FRA: Honor Flight is scheduled for April, 2011. This is probably the last one for Charleston.

FRA Picnic is at Short Stay on April 8—9.

May 15th is a NASCAR Trip to Darlington

July 2 and/or 3 is an Atlanta Braves – Baltimore Orioles baseball game trip

Next FRA golf tournament is June 11, 2011.

COB/LITTLE DAVID PROJECT:

Little David Working party will be held in April. Date to be determined.

The Oyster Roast was success

April 9, 2011 is the Grits Festival in St. George, SC

Jerry Coutu family appreciated our presence and participation at his funeral.

BASE COMMANDER:

American Submariner had three articles on the Charleston Base, although they were not presented correctly.

The Distinguished Submariner award was presented to Steve Nelms, Past Base Commander who was instrumental in establishing our current membership and excellent spirit. Good job on the "After Battery" also.

OLD BUSINESS: Rodney reported that on April 11, 2011 at Patriots Point, Cold War Memorial there will be a tolling of the bells ceremony. He asked we all support this event and wear our caps and hats. This will be in conjunction with the Sam Rayburn Reunion and a Buffett will be held at the Point Grill Restaurant in Mt. Pleasant. The USS Mendel Rivers reunion will be held in Charleston from 12-15 May.

NEW BUSINESS:

CPO Birthday will be held on April 1 at the Hilton Garden Inn at the Charleston Airport starting at 1800. Cost is \$25/person and RSVP by 15 March to CPO Xavier Robinson (843) 312-7280 or CPO John Whisler (770) 348-9183. Uniform is Service Dress Blues or Appropriate Attire for civilians or retirees.

See Fred Woodley to get your picture taken of our Web Site.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Gary Williams talked about the Kaps for Kids program is back up and running. MUSC does not like a lot of visitors during flu season. The program has been expanded to all children suffering from life threaten illness and not cancer alone. A Camp Happy Days will be held in Summerville (DTBD) for these children.

James Graham talked about the performance of basic CPR and how it was instrumental in saving the life of a man who was legally dead for a significant period of time. The web master will post these procedures on the USSVICB web site.

A motion was brought forward and passed to pay up to \$50.00 for the honor guard and bugler for the April 11, 2011 "Tolling of the Bells" for the Submarine Birthday.

The Executive Board recommended establishing a building fund to purchase and or build facilities in the future for the United States Submarine Veterans Incorporated, Charleston Base. A member recommended establishing a committee but it was the group believed it was too early in the project to establish such a group.

A Low Country Boil will be held at the Elks Lodge in support of the Honor Flight on March 26 from 3-8 PM.

Mike Emerson suggested that the Submarine Veterans members suggest that the new base pharmacy establish an ESCRIPTS program were doctors could send in prescriptions via email.

Chief Newsome reported that the Air Force wanted to change the 'Submarine Ball' to a "Spring Ball".

DEPTH CHARGE:

MEETING ADJOURNED: The Base Commander adjourned the meeting.